

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

17. (currently amended): A recombinant alphavirus particle comprising which infects ~~human dendritic cells, said recombinant alphavirus particle comprising~~ an amino acid mutation ^{at the} in its E2 glycoprotein, wherein the mutation in the E2 glycoprotein is in the region corresponding ^{residue 160} to ~~at about~~ amino acids 158 through 162 of the E2 glycoprotein, numbered relative to as compared to wild-type SIN E2 glycoprotein, and further wherein said particle is capable of ^{infect} ~~infecting~~ human dendritic cells, with the proviso that said recombinant alphavirus particle is not derived from ATCC # VR-2526.

Glycine to Gln at 160
A substitution of Gly to Gln at position 160
Gln corresponds to a residue at 160

19. (previously amended): The recombinant alphavirus particle of claim 17 wherein said alphavirus is a Sindbis virus.

20. (original): The recombinant alphavirus particle according to claim 19 wherein said alphavirus has an amino acid substitution at E2 residue 160, as compared to wild-type Sindbis virus.

21. (previously amended): The recombinant alphavirus particle according to claim 17 wherein said alphavirus is Semliki Forest virus.

22. (previously amended): The recombinant alphavirus particle according to claim 17 wherein said alphavirus is Ross River virus.

23. (previously amended): The recombinant alphavirus particle according to claim 17 wherein said alphavirus is Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus.